
California Board of Registered Nursing

2007-2008 Annual School Report

Data Summary and Historical Trend Analysis

A Presentation of Pre-Licensure Nursing Education Programs in California

Central Coast

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INTRODUCTION

Each year, the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) requires all pre-licensure registered nursing programs in California to complete a survey detailing statistics of their programs, students and faculty. The survey collects data from August 1 through July 31. Information gathered from these surveys is compiled into a database and used to analyze trends in nursing education.

The BRN commissioned the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) to conduct a historical analysis of data collected from the 2000-2001 survey through the 2007-2008 survey. In this report, we present eight years of historical data from the BRN Annual School Survey. Data analyses were conducted statewide and for nine economic regions¹ in California, with a separate report for each region. All reports are available on the BRN website (<http://www.rn.ca.gov/>).

This report presents data from the 4-county Central Coast. Counties in the region include Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara. All data are presented in aggregate form and describe overall trends in the areas and over the times specified and, therefore, may not be applicable to individual nursing education programs. Additional data from the past eight years of the BRN Annual School Survey are available in an interactive database on the BRN website.

¹ The nine regions include: (1) Northern California, (2) Northern Sacramento Valley, (3) Greater Sacramento, (4) Bay Area, (5) San Joaquin Valley, (7) Central Coast, (8) Southern California I (Los Angeles and Ventura counties), (9) Southern California II (Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties), and (10) Southern Border Region. Counties within each region are detailed in the corresponding regional report. The Central Sierra (Region 6) does not have any nursing education programs and was, therefore, not included in the analyses.

DATA SUMMARY AND HISTORICAL TREND ANALYSES

This analysis presents pre-licensure program data from the 2007-2008 BRN School Survey in comparison with data from previous years of the survey. Data items addressed include the number of nursing programs, enrollments, completions, retention rates and student and faculty census data.

Trends in Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs

Number of Nursing Programs

In 2007-2008, there were five nursing programs in the Central Coast region that led to RN licensure. All five of these programs are public ADN programs.

Number of Nursing Programs

	<i>Academic Year</i>							
	<i>2000-2001</i>	<i>2001-2002</i>	<i>2002-2003</i>	<i>2003-2004</i>	<i>2004-2005</i>	<i>2005-2006</i>	<i>2006-2007</i>	<i>2007-2008</i>
Total # Nursing Programs	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<i>ADN Programs</i>	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<i>BSN Programs</i>								
<i>ELM Programs</i>								
<i>Public Programs</i>	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<i>Private Programs</i>								

Admission Spaces and New Student Enrollments

After four years of growth in admission spaces and new student enrollments, the region has seen admission spaces and student enrollment in those spaces plateau. Admission spaces available for new student enrollments increased by 44.2% (n=76), from 172 spaces in 2000-2001 to 248 in 2007-2008. These spaces were filled with a total of 251 students, increasing new student enrollment in the region's public ADN programs by 53.0% (n=87) from 2000-2001.

Availability and Utilization of Admission Spaces

	<i>Academic Year</i>							
	<i>2000-2001</i>	<i>2001-2002</i>	<i>2002-2003</i>	<i>2003-2004</i>	<i>2004-2005</i>	<i>2005-2006</i>	<i>2006-2007</i>	<i>2007-2008</i>
Spaces Available	172	198	240	167	182	238	248	248
New Student Enrollments	164	192	242	167	181	228	253	251
% Spaces Filled	95.3%	97.0%	100.8%	100.0%	99.5%	95.8%	102.0%	101.2%

For the second time in eight years, there was a drop in the number of qualified applications to Central Coast nursing programs. Although nursing programs still receive more applications requesting entrance into their programs than can be accommodated, the share of qualified applications that were not accepted for admission dropped from 56.3% (n=294) in 2005-2006 to 38.0% (n=154) in 2007-2008.

Applications Accepted and Not Accepted for Admission

	<i>Academic Year</i>							
	<i>2000-2001</i>	<i>2001-2002</i>	<i>2002-2003</i>	<i>2003-2004</i>	<i>2004-2005</i>	<i>2005-2006</i>	<i>2006-2007</i>	<i>2007-2008</i>
Qualified Applications	232	385	397	335	410	522	413	405
<i>Accepted</i>	164	192	242	167	181	228	253	251
<i>Not Accepted</i>	68	193	155	168	229	294	160	154
% Qualified Applications Not Accepted	29.3%	50.1%	39.0%	50.1%	55.9%	56.3%	38.7%	38.0%

**Since these data represent applications rather than individuals, an increase in qualified applications may not represent equal growth in the number of individuals applying to nursing school.

Student Completions

The number of students that completed a nursing program in the Central Coast region has varied over the past eight years. Although 2001-2002 saw the greatest number of students complete a nursing program in the region, the number of students completing a nursing program has increased by 42.3% (n=63) since 2004-2005.

Student Completions

	<i>Academic Year</i>							
	<i>2000-2001</i>	<i>2001-2002</i>	<i>2002-2003</i>	<i>2003-2004</i>	<i>2004-2005</i>	<i>2005-2006</i>	<i>2006-2007</i>	<i>2007-2008</i>
Student Completions	166	220	186	175	149	145	172	212
<i>ADN</i>	166	220	186	175	149	145	172	212
<i>BSN</i>								
<i>ELM</i>								

Retention Rate

Of the 247 students scheduled to complete a nursing program in the 2007-2008 academic year, 64.4% (n=159) completed the program on-time, 25.1% (n=62) are still enrolled in the program, and 10.5% (n=26) dropped out or were disqualified from the program. The retention rate has decreased by 12.2% in the past three years, from 76.6% in 2005-2006 to 64.4% in 2007-2008.²

Student Cohort Completion and Retention Data

	<i>Academic Year</i>							
	<i>2000-2001</i>	<i>2001-2002</i>	<i>2002-2003</i>	<i>2003-2004</i>	<i>2004-2005</i>	<i>2005-2006</i>	<i>2006-2007</i>	<i>2007-2008</i>
Enrollment	214	293	295	193	226	209	219	247
<i>Completed On Time</i>	168	202	182	128	131	160	149	159
<i>Still Enrolled</i>	8	36	66	7	19	3	17	62
<i>Attrition</i>	38	55	47	58	76	46	53	26
Retention Rate*	78.5%	68.9%	61.7%	66.3%	58.0%	76.6%	68.0%	64.4%
Attrition Rate	17.8%	18.8%	15.9%	30.1%	33.6%	22.0%	24.2%	10.5%
% Still Enrolled	3.7%	12.3%	22.4%	3.6%	8.4%	1.4%	7.8%	25.1%

*Retention rate = (students who completed the program on-time) / (enrollment)

There has been fluctuation in the retention and attrition rates over the eight-year period documented in the above table. There were changes to the survey between 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, and between 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 that may have affected the comparability of these data over time.

Student Census Data

The total number of students enrolled in Central Coast region nursing programs increased by 28.0% (n=99), from 353 on October 15, 2001, to 452 on October 15, 2008. The reported number of pre-nursing students decreased from 424 in 2007 to 0 in 2008. This decrease may be due to fewer programs reporting data than to an actual decrease in the number of pre-nursing students.

Student Census Data

<i>Program Track</i>	<i>Academic Year</i>							
	<i>2000-2001</i>	<i>2001-2002</i>	<i>2002-2003</i>	<i>2003-2004</i>	<i>2004-2005</i>	<i>2005-2006</i>	<i>2006-2007</i>	<i>2007-2008</i>
ADN Program	353	428	382	242	351	432	464	452
BSN Program								
ELM Program								
Total Nursing Students	353	428	382	242	351	432	464	452
Pre-Nursing Students					445	350	424	0

*Blank cells indicated that the applicable information was not requested in the given year.

² All programs in the Central Coast region are public ADN programs. Therefore, the retention and attrition rates for the public ADN programs are the same as those for the region as a whole.

Clinical Simulation in Nursing Education

Data show that 60.0% (n=3) of the five nursing schools in the Central Coast region used a clinical simulation center³ between 8/1/07 and 7/31/08. All of the schools in the region that use clinical simulation centers reported that they use these facilities to standardize clinical experiences. Data also show that all of the nursing schools that currently use a clinical simulation center have plans to expand it.

Reasons for Using a Clinical Simulation Center*	2007-2008
To standardize clinical experiences	100.0%
To provide clinical experience not available in a clinical setting	33.3%
To check clinical competencies	33.3%
To make up for clinical experiences	0.0%
To increase capacity in your nursing program	33.3%
Number of schools that use a clinical simulation center	3

*These data were collected for the first time in 2006-2007. However, changes in these questions for the 2007-2008 administration of the survey and lack of confidence in the reliability of the 2006-2007 data prevent comparability of the data. Therefore, data from previous years of the survey are not shown.

Faculty Census Data

The total number of nursing faculty in the Central Coast region increased by 20.7% (n=12) over the last year. On October 15, 2008, there were 70 total nursing faculty. Of these faculty, 57.1% (n=40) were full-time and 42.9% (n=30) were part-time.

Although there was an increase in the total number of nursing faculty in 2008, that increase has not kept pace with the need for faculty. On October 15, 2008, there were two vacant faculty positions. These vacancies represent a 2.8% faculty vacancy rate, the lowest vacancy rate reported in seven years.

Faculty Data

	Academic Year							
	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005*	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
Total Faculty	58	66	47	41	49	64	58	70
Full-time	32	32	35	28	29	38	40	40
Part-time	26	34	12	13	10	26	18	30
Vacancy Rate**		8.3%	6.0%	16.3%	3.9%	11.1%	14.7%	2.8%
Vacancies		6	3	8	2	8	10	2

In 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-2007 and 2007-2008, the sum of full- and part-time faculty did not equal the total faculty reported.

*Faculty vacancies were estimated based on the vacant FTEs reported.

**Vacancy rate = number of vacancies/(total faculty + number of vacancies)

³ Clinical Simulation Center/Experience - students have a simulated real-time nursing care experience using hi-fidelity mannequins and clinical scenarios, which allow them to integrate, apply, and refine specific skills and abilities that are based on theoretical concepts and scientific knowledge. The experience includes videotaping, de-briefing and dialogue as part of the learning process.

Summary

In the past eight years, the number of admission spaces available in pre-licensure nursing education programs in the Central Coast region increased by 44.2% (n=76). New student enrollments in these programs increased by 53.0% (n=87) during the same time period. Even though these programs continue to receive more qualified applications than can be accommodated, qualified applications to these programs have decreased in recent years.

Despite a decrease in the number of qualified applications over the past two years, nursing programs in the Central Coast region continue to produce a growing number of graduates. The number of students completing nursing programs in the Central Coast region increased by 46.2% (n=67), from 145 in 2005-2006 to 212 in 2007-2008.

Expansion in nursing education has required nursing programs to hire more faculty. As a result, Central Coast nursing programs reported a 20.7% (n=12) increase in the number of faculty in the past eight years. In 2007-2008, a 2.8% faculty vacancy rate (n=2) was reported, representing the lowest vacancy rate in seven years.

APPENDIX A – Central Coast Nursing Education Programs**ADN Programs**

Allan Hancock College
Cuesta College
Hartnell College
Monterey Peninsula College
Santa Barbara City College

APPENDIX B – BRN Education Advisory Committee Members**BRN Education Advisory Committee Members****Members**

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Deloras Jones
Jim Comins
Loucine Huckabay
Margaret Craig
Marilyn Herrmann
Stephanie Leach
Sue Albert

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